these discussions is to harmonise India's essential national security interests with international concerns on further proliferation, which are shared by India. Government's approach in this matter is solely guided by India's national interest and the building of a national consensus in this regard.

(c) There is no proposal to amend the CTBT.

(d) Does not arise.

India's Willingness to Sign CTBT

355. DR. MANMOHAN SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have indicated to the US Government its willingness to sign the CTBT in the next few months; and

(b) if so, what are the broad elements the Minister of External Affairs and the US Deputy Secretary of State during their discussions in January, 1999?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) Government's position on the CTBT is determined purely by considerations of national interest. The building of a national consensus will continue to guide the Government's approach to the CTBT.

The Indian position regarding CTBT remains as stated by the Prime Minister in UNGA in September, 1998 "India, having harmonised its national imperatives and security obligations and desirous of continuing to cooperate with the international community is now engaged in discussions with key interlocutors on a range of issues, including the CTBT. We are prepared to bring these discussions to a successful conclusion, so that the entry into force of the CTBT is not delayed beyond September, 1999. We expect that other countries, as indicated in Article XIV of the CTBT, will adhere to this treaty without conditions"

(b) As on earlier rounds of bilateral talks, the security perspective of the two sides were further elaborated and clarified with a view to harmonising perspectives. Both delegations expressed satisfaction at the progress made in the last round of talks. The talks will be continued.

G-15 Summit at Montego Bay

356. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian delegation led by the Prime Minister of India attended the three-day G-15 Summit at Montego Bay in Jamaica from 10th February, 1999;

(b) if so, what were the details of discussion held there and outcome of above mentioned Summit;

(c) whether any concrete action plans for furthering G-15 member's common trade and investment interests chalked out by Prime Minister of India; and

(d) what role India played in imparting the much needed dynamism to the Summit?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JASWANT SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The G-15 Summit Meetings deliberated extensively on issues of concern to developing countries. These includes discussions on the current international economic situation in the light of the ongoing financial crisis, establishment of a fair and equitable rule-based multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organisation (WTO), reform of the international monetary and financial architecture, South-South and intra G-15 cooperation and prospects of undertaking a G-15—G-8 dialogue in these matters. All such priorities were duly reflected in the Joint Communique issued at the end of the Ninth Summit. In order to be able to cope with the challenges posed by globalisation and economic liberalisation and the ongoing financial crisis, members agreed to